REGIONAL CONTINUUM OF CARE COUNCIL
Tuesday April 27, 2010
MINUTES

- **CALL TO ORDER** at 10:04 AM with members of both consortia and guests present.

- **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
  The minutes of March 30, 2010 were corrected to remove the HPRP update, paragraph 4, on page 3. Approved by consensus.

- **HHSA HEALTH STRATEGIES PRESENTATION**
  Bonnie Copland presented on behalf of Rene Santiago, Deputy Director, County Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA). The County of San Diego is one of 44 communities across the nation to recently be awarded a federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention grant.

  County HHSA is implementing a strategic agenda to address four preventable chronic diseases (cancer; heart disease; respiratory disease, and Type 2 Diabetes) that account for over 50% of deaths. Each of these diseases can be impacted by three basic strategies (prevention, access to care, and treatment) and by focusing on high-impact behaviors (exercise, diet, smoking).

  A number of specific initiatives are under way. For examples: Thrive San Diego, Community Putting Prevention to Work (CPPW), Rady Hospital's Safe Walk to School; and the use of electronic food stamp benefits at farmer's markets like the People's Produce Market.

  Ms. Copland requested ideas and the RCCC members offered a myriad of suggestions – a small sample of these ideas include: use of the former Sharp-Cabrillo facilities as an access site; workshops on healthy foods and nutritious recipes; altering the snack available in public schools; expand community gardens; gleaning of local fruit; Golden Share; master gardeners from UCSD; set aside space in affordable housing projects; victory gardens and plant the seed programs; healthy microwave meals; products from community gardens given to shelter programs; recipes on-line; creative usage for food stamp distribution, services to ESL programs, etc. A Health Strategies presentation is planned for June 9th -10th. More communication can be directed to Bonnie.Copland@sd.county.ca.gov.

- **STEERING COMMITTEE**
  - **New APR Regulations** – HUD is implementing a new Annual Performance Report (APR). A notice and timeline for compliance was distributed electronically. Officially, the new form goes into effect in July, 2010 but programs will comply in accordance with a HUD plan that does not require programs to back enter new data. HPRP grantees will use the new forms for

reports ending September 30th, due November 2010; SHP and S+P programs transition in with programs with program years ending after July 1, 2010 using e-snaps to report using the new APR form. The RCCC and RTFH will work cooperatively so that agencies can receive updates from the RCCC and Training support from the RTFH. A summary page highlighting the changes will be prepared for distribution to members.

- o **SHP Annual Process**
  - ▪ *HUD Notice of COC Registration* – the NOFA round has started and both the City and County have registered.
  - ▪ *Grant Inventory Worksheets* for both the City and County have been confirmed.
  - ▪ *Change in Local Process.* Since programs eligible for renewal need to confirm their program status, budget, award numbers, etc. for the Grant Inventory Worksheet (GIW) the Steering Committee recommended that the confirmation of the GIW replace the local Intent to Submit Form for eligible renewal projects. New projects, and projects and proposals that have not yet been awarded funds (2009 competition) will submit the Intent Form. (Note: this means that unless HUD awards are made in advance of the local deadline, applicants for new projects in 2009 would also file an Intent to Submit form).
    - o *The RCCC voted in favor of this recommendation (with none opposed and two abstaining).*
  - ▪ Recommendation for Rating & Ranking Chair – Action
    As follow up to the prior discussion for reconvening the R & R committee and the departure of the former R & R Chair (Shanda Lewis) , the Steering committee recommended that Holly Younghans be authorized to convene / chair the R & R sub Committee. It was noted that ECS does not have a renewal project or proposal in either CA 601 or CA610 this year; that renewals will be reviewed but not ranked; and the Scoring Committee that acts on the approved recommendations of the R & R, as a result there is no conflict of interest presented.
    - o *The RCCC voted in favor of the recommendation with one abstaining.*

- o **HEARTH Act update**

- • Webinar Series Calendar – HUD has begun training for the new systems. A calendar of webinars is posted on-line. Members are encouraged to visit the site often.

- ▪ As a step in HEARTH implementation, HUD released proposed definitions for the Emergency Solutions Gran and the Continuum of Care Programs. It is presumed that the HEARTH regulations for program implementation will be released in sections rather than in one announcement. The Steering Committee reviewed the Federal Register

notice of April 20th and produced two documents from the review (attached). A summary of the notice and the Steering Committee recommendations follow:

Summary of the notice: On April 20, 2010 the Federal Register contained a HUD announcement (Pages 20541 – 20546). The notice:
1) Describes HUD's intent to broaden definitions
2) Proposes to align the ESG definitions with the CoC (former SHP, etc.) programs
3) Provides four categories under which a person or family can be considered homeless
4) Clarifies the requirements for verifying of homeless status / eligible conditions
5) Extends the time frames for those existing institutions
6) Poses specific questions from HUD

Questions In the HUD Notice
The four general questions posed were:
1) Should HUD use the same definitions for ESG and CoC programs?
2) Should HUD require a specific HUD- approved form for verification of homeless status / conditions?
3) What is your feedback regarding the concept of "persistent instability" proposed by the rule?
4) What is your feedback regarding maintaining confidentiality under the proposed rule?

The Steering Committee suggests that the RCCC:
1) Support use of the broadened definitions for both ESG and CoC
2) Suggest that HUD does not require a specific HUD-approved form for verification
3) Provide feedback on the persistent instability concept that includes the comments below and other comments generated by RCCC members (prior to the May deadline)
   a. The concept of persistent instability should be clarified to identify if both the 91 days without permanent housing and the three moves or more are both conditions that must apply, or if either condition alone is sufficient for persistent instability
   b. The barriers to employment be expanded to include the barriers identified by the Department of Labor and Workforce Investment Act;
   c. The barriers to employment be expanded to include disability in general
   d. Consideration be given to identifying employment barriers in communities such as long term unemployment and economic conditions in the community such as the jobless rate
   e. Request HUD more clearly define the term 'episode of homelessness' in measurable terms
4) Provide feedback on the concerns regarding confidentiality as listed below and other comments generated by RCCC members prior to the deadline.
   a. Third party verification raises issues with confidentiality such as protections of persons engaged in HIPPA regulated programs.

    b. Third party verification of 'unsafe' conditions could increase the risk of families and individuals who are marginally housed. (For example: wanting to leave the home of a family or friend due to drug use, crime or other conditions that threaten safety but are not classified as domestic violence.)

5) Recommend that HUD maintain the current self-certification system as the minimum requirement for verification of homeless status.

6) Ask HUD to consider the impact of the changes in definition on baseline data and already established program goals. For example:

    a. The impact of expanded definitions on Point-In-Time Counts of homelessness or the impact on goals that were established as percentages of the homeless population built on prior baseline data.

    b. The segregation of persons 'at risk' and prevented from entering homelessness vs those who entered literal homelessness

    c. Opportunities to adjust existing goals and services in consideration of the expanded definitions.

    o *Without objection, the RCCC authorized the Steering Committee to gather additional feedback from members and to draft input to HUD for submittal prior to the June deadline.*

- **SUBCOMMITTEE and LIAISON REPORTS**
  - Legislative Committee – Rosemary Johnston as in Sacramento at the time of the meeting. The report was distributed electronically. Laurin Pause noted that domestic violence funding is facing substantial cuts in the state budget process. Funds were secured for a one-year bridge during the last round but those are not expected to be available again.

  - San Diego City Council - Land Use and Housing Committee asked the proposers of the year-round housing and services project at the World Trade Center to conduct community outreach and revisit concerns expressed by the community at the meeting. The project must be forwarded to the full Council in 90 days. PATH, Family Health Centers and, Affirmed Housing are the named partners in this effort.

  - HMIS - Data Quality/ PIT / HIC Update – Tiffany Bevilacqua – The system is going to be updated to Service Point version 5.0 which should be smoother operations. A training calendar will be created.

    Reminders about continued importance of data quality, particularly with HUD HDX electronic filing, prompted discussion about agencies ability to review data quality independently. Some organizations noted that they are not familiar with the ART tool for creating and running custom reports. More information can be provided by the RTFH.

    Data Governance – Craig Jones – (note: this report was taken out of order to accommodate conflicts in schedules). As approved in April, the Data

Governance Committee is being convened. Craig Jones who is taking the initial lead in bringing this group together has created (with input from others) an agenda for the inaugural meeting. Seats on the committee were determined and filled through an extensive process last year.

o Housing Liaisons – HOC/ HIV – Hannah Cohen / Patti Hamic Christensen

o The Alliance for Regional Solutions will be meeting on May 6th at Interfaith Shelter Network in Escondido. ARS is losing one of its sites (Salvation Army) for next season and new locations are sought. A suggestion was made to add the Alliance for Regional Solutions to the housing liaison reports.

San Diego Housing Federation is accepting nominations for various annual awards, including support services; residential programs, advocacy, etc. Nominations can be submitted on-line to SDHF.

ADJOURNED (11:42 AM)

NEXT MEETING
TUESDAY, MAY 25, 2010
10:00 -11:30 AM

National University
9388 Lightwave Ave.
San Diego, CA. 92123